



PRESS RELEASE

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BELOIT MAN GETS MORE THAN 13 YEARS FOR COCAINE DISTRIBUTION

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Jeremy Howard, 20, of Beloit, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 162 months in federal prison for distribution of crack cocaine. Howard pleaded guilty to this charge on March 6, 2007.

On August 30, 2006, a confidential informant purchased one ounce of crack cocaine from Howard in Beloit, Wisconsin. After the drug transaction Howard's car was stopped and officers uncovered additional crack cocaine on Howard and in his car.

The charges against Howard were the result of an investigation conducted by the Rock County Safe Streets Task Force comprised of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Rock County Sheriff's Department; the Beloit Police Department; the Janesville Police Department; and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau. To date, a total of 34 defendants have been convicted of federal drug and gun charges resulting from Task Force investigations. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

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